DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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## AT THE SHRINE.

In the City Council on Tuesday evening there was a discussion of the act that is pending before Congress which proposes to dedicate certain lands for park purposes, which presents an interesting development, the treatment of which by the majority of the Council may not prove entirely satisfactory in its ultimate generality, however, the course that has given so far is to be commended, and the action has not yet been taken in a positively straight and suitable shape to facilitate the passage of the bill. The lands of the contract of the land purchase were found to reserve to the Union Pacific the right of way for railway tracks, and the exclusive use of any and all stations in case that may be determined in the land patented.

The securing of the land seems to be a matter of little moment to some in good form, may be taken upon as the most good fortune, and it is not at all clear that, even if the present City Council, and it is conceivable that with a string that may partly at least be the object of the purchase, it would be found on to blame as the worst taunting of a good job that ever has been done by the corporation. In the former purchase of Liberty Park this restriction was in the contract, and stands there as a constant memento to the city's rights in the premises. It is known that the very district referred to contains extensive stone deposits that in time will become of great value to the owners, and would be especially so to the city. With such a cause as now exists in the contract, the inevitable working of stone quarries may be carried on by the railway or its successors in the claim, upon land owned by the city, in such manner as to behind the water supply, the surplus this would be helpless and the chief purpose of acquiring the land be defeated.

In securing these lands the city should make an absolute purchase, and not be allowed any private interest, and if the railway company will not deal so fairly by the city, it should not be permitted to build on what can be easily transformed into an undue advantage. Better be without the land than have attached to its ownership a string which practically destroys its value to the corporation. The municipality should be as careful in securing a full title to the land, stone deposits and all, as a private individual would be.

The claims that there no stone quarries there, and that the Union Pacific prefers to have the customary clause retained should not be given much weight than they are entitled to. If the first of these claims be true, then there could be no objection to striking out the clause; but if it be not true, as is the prevailing impression based on a fairly accurate knowledge of the land under negotiation, then the situation of the contract should be looked in as a matter of good faith on the part of the city. Whatever doubt exists should be resolved by the council in favor of the buyer, as is the usual course for even city councillors cannot afford to specially favor the railway at the risk of the imputation that they were influenced by having free transportation over its lines, as is being suggested already. The council should cut the string and make a clean purchase or none at all.

## THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL.

Leo's papal encyclical to the Catholic bishops of the United states, now made public, is an important document, as revealing the attitude of the Roman church with reference to some of the burning questions of the day. The explanations of that religious body are set forth more clearly than ever before, defining its policy and indicating the means whereby to carry it out to a successful conclusion.

In the introduction the pope refers to the discovery of the continent by Columbus and states that "the first motive of Columbus was to plant the sacred standards of the cross wherever he discovered." The very name given to American towns and rivers and mountains and lakes shows how the beginning was marked with the footprints of the Catholic church."

He also refers to the fact that the first Catholic bishop in America was consecrated his adobe in this country when Washington was at the head of the state and draws the conclusion that the United States ought to be a Catholic country. He says:

> The will known fact that Washington himself from his youth up had been in the habit of the Catholic religion, and that he died in the strongest sentiments and piety with the Catholic religion.

This opinion and piety" is, however, not endorsed by the religious liberty secured every citizen of the United States. A nothing more is needed. In fact, his notions really a wholesale cut the great foundation of the nation of church and state of all the palaces of the old world. The encyclical says:

> Are with a view that the Church of the people of United States, if it should in accordance with the constitution of the country, be enjoyed the liberty of exercising its laws, religious for state and church to be, as it is America, the most free.

The rest of the encyclical is devoted to the Catholic university at Washington, and the methods adopted for the encouragement of educational efforts especially the delegation of episcopal authority to Mgr. Sarcoli, and nothing on the right to vote, "to every citizen the Catholic religion" in this country. In order to insure this all Catholics are enjoined to render "loyalty, obedience and allegiance to the state."

Other questions discussed show to point out that the Roman pontiff regards both civil and social institutions as benefited only so far as they are identified with the church. Liberty itself may be permitted, he says, only in "the love of the gospel"—which of course means the condition of the Catholic church—to be tolerated.

With regard to social societies it is admitted that Christians have a right to combine for their own interest, but Catholics should prefer to unite with Catholics and share the sorrows that have been experienced by the church, and also any society that is regarded by bishops as "suspicious and dangerous." And furthermore, prudence of the bishops, clergy should be preserved. The following on this point is very plain:

> But, either, where based by necessity to the act or action, Catholics ought to prefer to associate with Catholics, a society which will be very beneficial to mutual knowledge of their faith. As possibility of the societies these Catholics ought to be with people of other faith, or to appear either private or upright members of secret and dangerous, guided by those authority which ought to prefer holy wedge and carry into effect with firmness in any such circumstances in their hearts a keeping in view the rules laid down by us in our encyclical.

The same principle is brought to bear on the press, although in more guarded terms. The rules in all both, however, that Catholics, in order to fulfill its mission, ought to be the servant of the church. He following says:

> Let those [editorial writers] then be mindful of their duty and not exceed the proper limits of moderation. The bishops, guard in a due proportion of knowledge and to be chosen, and suitable honor and long the temperate and vigilant of their office should be shown them.

And again:

> We have, myself, on occasion some also, and have many times exposing the duties of all good writers, many of which were manifestly needed, as well for the dress [illegible] among Catholics in this province of Chicago in the year 1886. Let the Catholic writers, therefore, bear in mind the rules, their minds, our judgment, and yours in the point, and let their minds be [illegible] of writing which be strictly guarded if they in mind doubt, as they ought to doubt, to bishops their duty well.

The antagonism of the Catholic church have often insisted that that religious denomination ultimately aimed at supremacy in the political affairs of every state in the Union as well as in the national government. The accusation has so often been met by the assertion that the Roman church was no longer what it used to be, that progress had been made in accordance with the views of the age and that the Constitution of this country would be upheld by every good Catholic. How this argument can be considered effective any longer is difficult to perceive, since the head of the church has declared the subordination of the church and state, as existing in a monarchy, independent and unlawful. In plain words the pope maintains that Catholics will now strive for a change of this condition, and do so by placing the church, the social societies and the press under ecclesiastical influence, thereby rendering the clergy of the Roman church the most powerful body in the state.

Is there not in this proposition a menace to the Constitution of the United States? It is conceivable that the Catholics, if they should succeed in uniting church and state in this country, would still need to be members of other faiths the liberty guaranteed by that strongly inspired document, but the possibility is all the other way. The condition of the Catholic sentiment in Europe is not such as to inspire confidence in the fate of the Republic, should the time ever come that its affairs are to be directed from Rome. It is true that intelligent citizens be waking up to a realization of a possible danger that confronts the institution that have been so long a blessing to themselves and to the whole world.

## TO WARMING CITY CREEK.

During the discussion at the last session of the City Council of the proposition to secure the city some electric light, one of the commissioners seemed to be in the view that if the electric light company would not furnish lamps at a lower figure than was offered at present, the municipality would put an electric plant in City Creek canyon, and operate it by the water power there.

Aside from any discussion as to whether or not the price asked for electric street lamps is exorbitant under present conditions, the idea suggested by the commissioner is one worthy of serious attention in the future, if not at the present moment. It is not at all improbable that City Creek will be used to operate a competitive electric light plant, for it is just possible that there may be arrangements to place the electric company will before long have to see what terms they can have Detroit municipal management. But there is a little more good sense to be made in the merging City Creek into some competition in electric light, but time to spare of that kind takes actual form. Meanwhile, however, the city will be made use of and the most advantageous method which appears at present is by establishing a municipality. At present the city pioneers are reaping the benefit of not having had it.

At the same time there are other water powers close by that are capable of utilization in combination with City Creek, which of itself would not be sufficient to light more than the central part of town. The creek in Parley's canyon, the Jordan river and other streams in the vicinity all have a power that would pay to develop and converting into electricity for household and other purposes in this city and vicinity. Somebody is sooner or later the last million dollars invested, and then private enterprise in the same line would be infused with new life and vigor. It might be worth while to inquire what City Creek is and about the most suitable places for electric with a general movement in the interests of industrial progress and development.

## THE ARMENIAN QUESTION.

Dispatches from Constantinople state that the committee to inquire into the Armenian trouble has had a preliminary sitting at Sivas. Newspaper correspondents are still kept at a distance from Armenia, by order of the government, and news of the doings of the commission is correspondingly not yet obtainable. It is stated, however, that the prosecution continues as vigorously as before.

European papers seem inclined to the view that the real guilt in the matter lies on certain Turkish officials in Armenia and not on the government. The *New Free Press*, Vienna, for instance, says that these officials gave a false alarm and thereby caused the government to issue the orders for the suppression of the revolt. The paper further argues that whatever reforms are needed will be left to Turkey. The European powers do not intend to meddle with the delicate subject.

It is early indicated that the powers are built to deal in a vigorous manner with the problem involved. Nearly all great mediaeval disturbances at war, the territory most suffer in case of international war in the East, is the twenty-eight state of a compact federation of the powers of Europe, that will consequently, this time, will be greatly enabled, with force to be not some day. The liberation of Christian subjects from Moslem domination is only a question of time, for the time is, among others, that the behind are steadily advancing under the influence of civilization, all the politically cultured on by representatives of the civilized world, with the Mohammedans, who steadily retiring in a condition of succeeding slower so slowly as to be the decadence of the conquered Saracens. A conflict is inevitable certainly, and if the European concert in Cairo at this time, it will be found later.

An uprising in Armenia is only a little space, for if it a flame of insurrection in Macedonia might be kindled, and the Greeks would surely be induced to rally from all parts of European Turkey, Syria and Egypt as well as from their own country, and then the Bulgarians and the Slavs would not be quiet too. In this way the troubles in Armenia might lead to the unravelling of the whole Eastern question, with or without the consent of the rest of Europe.

England's present policy in the East seems to be to keep somewhat in the background, allowing Russia to follow her own inclination, with regard to Turkey. That this is done with the expectation of coming into possession of the policy in Asia is clear enough, and it was understood by the Russian press. Should the deal be accepted one of the greatest centuries in a satisfactory adjustment of the Eastern problem would seem to be in market. As yet the Commissioners of the Turkish empire is not sufficiently concerned, for that eventuality seems nevertheless now more probable than ever.

The City Council says that the municipality must do without electric street lamps rather than pay $10 a month each for them. If it has been definitely ascertained that the charge is excessive, then the council is right. It was the spirit of resistance to exorbitant rates that led to American freedom, and whether it was in the matter relating to purchase of tea or in which there was no taxation government tax, or in the matter of municipality desiring to have electric lights at unreasonably high prices, the principle is the same. Besides, it is harder for such a monopoly to be without a pathmaker which is more remunerative than for the people to dispense with the lamps, because it is possible the lights will come to fall in a more reasonable figure.

Chatanooga does not seem to be merry at Christmas, now that Mexico has got her money called on. It is just a little bad Santa Claus, and probably gives a kind of the season. Anyhow, poor people gave at Christmas, and will be willing now to explain. How can the wise and wary only friend of man [illegible]

It is not to be interesting to a general [illegible] that Mary people [illegible] in New York and the Atlantic Coast. In the extent there are [illegible] Writing, in comparing during [illegible] years and the was a Dozen. [illegible] Company of Harvard in Cambridge [illegible] the daughter of Farrar.

Antipas, a town [illegible] Antipas of Midian—[illegible] Antipas [illegible] at Lyman, 61 East Second South.

## AN OPINION OFFER.

Seventy Mr. J. R. Thomas, of North Dakota, visited the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, and after carefully considering the country located in Winchester, he writes to Mr. V. Hiserote, Land and Immigration Agent, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, Baltimore, Maryland, as follows: "I have been to nearly every state and territory in the United States, and am ready to say that the valley surpasses all other sections in the Union. The lands are low in price, and produce profitable crops. I thank you for coming me here, and I will then spending pleasant and profitable hours to come to this country."

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Rooms 201 to 207 McCornick Block.

JAS. H. MOYLE,
Attorney at Law,
Rooms 205 to 209 Commercial Building, opp. P. O. Salt Lake City.

L. M. WARDELL, & THOS ADAMS,
Attorneys at Law and Land Attorney.
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